

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, undated, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Oakland, Md.
August 1883 My dear Alec:

We are all well and flourishing. The children went for a picnic but came home in a hurry to say that two rattlesnakes had been discovered on one of the paths not far from here, one of them with nine rattles, Susie seemed much frightened and I think for her own sake will keep the children within bounds. Not that they had been out of them.

Thanks for the cable, I hope you answered it. Don't urge Papa's return, you are surely old enough to manage without, to quote Mr. Moxley your "Paa"-in-law. They are as you see quite troubled about Grace and they would all of them feel the heat of the last of August and first of September much the more from their cool summer.

I love you very much, and thank you very much for coming to see me. I hope you did not find the house transported or irreparable blunders committed. If you would look for my china paint box yourself I might try to see if I could make a border for my bath room tiles. You know the box, a brown wooden affair about 9 or 10 inches by 4 or five. If the wardrobe between nursery and childrens room is empty there are only three places where it could be, the closet on the third story stairway landing, or the lowest shelf of closet in cedar closet, or in the drawing-room, either two first most probable.

Always your loving wife, Mabel. (letter unsigned)